

Statement of Work

Contract:	Region 8 Risk Assessment
Contract Number:	EP S8 11 03/SRC, Inc.
Task Order Number:	0003
Amendment Number	Initial
Scope:	Libby Asbestos Superfund Site/Revision of Risk Assessment Guidance
Contract SOW Reference	Task Numbers 1 and 2
EPA Contracting Officer:	Kirk Roegner (303/312-6200) roegner. kirk@epa.gov
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Period of Performance:	Award to January 31, 2012

Project Name: Libby Asbestos Superfund Site /Revision of Risk Assessment Guidance

Period of Performance:

The period of performance of this effort shall be from award to January 31, 2012.

Task Order Description

Background:

The Libby Asbestos Superfund site is located in Northwestern Montana and is the site of a former mine that produced vermiculite. The mine operated from the early 1920s to 1990 and was operated by W.R. Grace from 1964 until it closed in 1990. The mine produced vermiculite ore and vermiculite that was used for home insulation, fire proofing, and in nursery/horticultural applications. The vermiculite ore contained low levels of amphibole asbestos that occurred naturally in the geologic formations that were mined for ore. The amphibole asbestos was a unique amphibole, mineral mixture containing predominantly winchite, richterite, and tremolite which remained in the processed vermiculite after thermal expansion. The product was sold as Zonolite vermiculite and used for attic insulation in the United States and it was made available to many home owners for insulation in Libby, MT and surrounds or used as a soil amendment.

In 1999 following a series of newspaper articles concerning extensive lung disease in the miner and residential population in Libby, MT, the USEPA sent an emergency response team into Libby to evaluate the contamination and extent of public health effects. The emergency response team identified significant asbestos contamination in residential, municipal, and public buildings, public schools and public areas with multiple completed inhalation exposure pathways. Emergency response/removal

actions were commenced to eliminate significant human exposures. In 2002, Libby became a Superfund site and was placed on the National Priorities List. The site has been divided into eight [8] study areas termed operable units and each operable unit has its own unique characteristics and challenges. The site was declared a Public Health Emergency in 2009. Due to the complex nature of exposures and the nature of the contaminant, innovative analytical methods and sampling techniques have been developed and employed to collect and quantify potential human and ecological receptor exposures for evaluation of risk.

Since 1999, numerous response actions have occurred at the former mine, processing facilities, public areas, commercial buildings, and private residences. The Screening Plant, Export Plant, expansion facility and mine wastes were removed, and soil in these areas was removed or capped. Vermiculite piles, vermiculite surfaces on athletic fields, and vermiculite at schools (High School, Middle School, and Plummer Elementary School) were removed. As of January 2011, over 1,400 residential and commercial properties have undergone response actions.

Though substantially reduced by EPA response actions, current exposures are still occurring for residents who may be exposed to vermiculite-containing soils where cleanup has not yet occurred, for contractors who are remodeling homes that contain vermiculite in the walls of structures, for citizens exposed to forest duff during recreational activities, and for remedial action contracting personnel.

Note that some amount of Libby Amphibole is expected to remain in the environment after remediation activities are concluded.

This statement of work (SOW) outlines the tasks to be performed by the Contractor to assist EPA's Libby team in the evaluation of human health risks at the Site.

NOTE:

The Contractor shall:

- schedule a scoping meeting with the EPA COR, Contracting Officer (CO) and Project Officer (PO) within three (3) calendar days following receipt of this SOW to discuss the overall objective of the SOW and specific task elements
- submit a proposed workplan within fifteen (15) business days following receipt of this SOW
- prepare Monthly Progress Reports containing a description of the work performed that month, specific difficulties encountered, hours expended and percentage of each task completed with accompanying invoices based on work performed; two hard copies to the PO, one each for the CO and PO; and electronic copies, with bookmarks by task order, to the CO and PO
- prepare a close-out report within 60 days of completion of all tasks associated with this SOW.

Task 1 – Revision of Guidance

The Contractor shall prepare a brief Quality Assurance Project Plan [QAPP] detailing the development and preparation of the guidance addendum. The Contractor shall also complete and submit the EPA Region 8 Quality Assurance Project Plan Review Checklist, Form 7-2010, when preparing the QAPP. The use of the form will help to ensure that the applicable QAPP elements are included. The link to the R8 QA Website for this form can be found at: <http://www.epa.gov/region8/qa/reference.html>. Click on Generic QAPP Checklist.

The Contractor shall evaluate the toxicity endpoints and exposure-response relationship using data from toxicity or epidemiological studies conducted on Libby Amphibole. The National Center for Environmental Assessment and Region 8 staff have drafted a toxicity evaluation and analysis of scientific data resulting in revised toxicity factors [both cancer and non-cancer] for Libby Amphibole asbestos that will be used in future risk assessment for the Libby Asbestos Superfund site. Based on the draft toxicity values, an addendum to the USEPA Framework Guidance for Conducting Risk Assessments for Superfund at Asbestos Sites will be necessary to support the conduct of risk assessments at Libby. The draft addendum will be reviewed by Region 8 staff and the USEPA Technical Review Working Group [TRW] for Asbestos which meets in Denver the week of October 17, 2011. The review comments from the TRW shall be incorporated into a Final Draft by the Contractor and shall be incorporated as an addendum to the national guidance document.

Deliverable & Activity Schedule ---

- Draft addendum to the Framework Guidance for utilizing the Libby-specific toxicity factors in risk assessments for the Libby Asbestos Superfund site: The Draft guidance addendum will be reviewed by Region 8 staff and the Asbestos Technical Review Workgroup [TRW] and review comments will be provided to the Contractor. After receiving comments and concurrence from the Region 8 staff and the TRW, the Contractor shall prepare the Final version of the guidance addendum.

All deliverables shall be in hard copy [7 copies of the final document] and electronic format [i.e. Microsoft Word, Excel, compact disc.]

Deliverable	Contract SOW Reference	Due No Later Than
<p><u>Task 1</u> Prepare a Quality Assurance Project Plan for the development and drafting of the guidance addendum.</p> <p>Prepare Draft guidance supplement detailing the conduct of a human health risk assessment conduct utilizing the draft Inhalation Unit Risk factor [IUR] and the Reference Concentration {RfC} for Libby Amphibole asbestos for Region 8 and the Asbestos Technical Review Workgroup review and comment.</p> <p>Prepare Final draft addendum for the use of the Libby-specific toxicity factors in risk assessment.</p>	Task 1 and 2	<p>Within 5 days after approval of the workplan</p> <p>October 13, 2011</p> <p>45 days after delivery of the draft evaluation</p>